

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 to 7. (canceled)

Claim 8 (currently amended) A κ opioid receptor agonist comprising a compound or a salt thereof, the compound being selected from the group consisting of

[[.]]3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[.]]3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-(2-methylpropyl)amino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[.]]3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-((2S)-2-hydroxymethylazoran-1-yl)propoxy)-5-ethoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[.]]3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-((3S)-hydroxyazoran-1-yl)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]]3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-isopropyl-N-(2-methoxyethyl) amino)-propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]]3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-ethoxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]]3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(furan-2-ylmethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline

[[·]]3-Acetyl acetyl-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]-5-trifluoromethylbenzothiazoline,

[[·]]3-Acetyl acetyl-5-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]]3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)-1-methylpropoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]]3-Acetyl acetyl-2-[2-(3-(N-isopropyl-N-(2-methoxyethyl) amino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]](+)-3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-isopropyl-N-(2-methoxyethyl) amino)-propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]](+)-3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)-propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]](+)-3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-ethoxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)-propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] (+)-3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-isopropyl-N-(thiophen-2-ylmethyl)-amino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] (+)-3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(furan-2-ylmethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] (+)-3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-ethyl-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] (+)-3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N,N-diisopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] (+)-3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-isopropyl-N-methylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] (+)-3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(hydroxyethyl)-N-methylamino)-propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] (-)-3-~~Acetyl~~ acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-isopropyl-N-(2-methoxyethyl)amino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] (-)-3-~~Acetyl~~ acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] (-)-3-~~Acetyl~~ acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-ethoxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] (+)-3-Acetyl acetyl-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-ethoxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] (+)-3-Acetyl acetyl-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] 3--Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-isopropyl-N-(2-methoxymethoxyethyl))amino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] 3--Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-isopropyl-N-(2-(2-methoxyethoxy-methoxy)ethyl)amino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] 2-[2-(3-(N-(2-Acetoxyethyl acetoxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]-3-acetyl-6-chlorobenzothiazoline,

[[·]] 3--Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-isopropyl-N-(2-phenylcarboxyethyl)-amino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] 3--Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-hydroxy-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

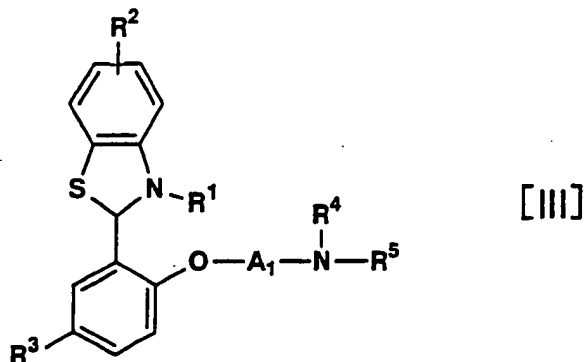
[[·]] 3--Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-cyclohexyl-N-(2-hydroxyethyl)amino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[.]] 3--~~Acetyl~~ acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-ethyl-N-(2-hydroxyethyl)amino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,
 [[.]] 3--~~Acetyl~~ acetyl-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-ethoxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline and
 [[.]] (+)-3-~~Acetyl~~ acetyl-2-[2-(3-(N-isopropyl-N-(2-methoxyethyl)amino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline.

Claim 9. (currently amended) [[An]] ~~analgesic or an antipruritic~~ A composition comprising an effective pharmaceutical amount of the κ opioid receptor agonist as claimed in claims [[1 to]] claim 8 as an active ingredient in combination with a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier.

Claim 10. (canceled)

Claim 11. (currently amended) A compound or a salt thereof represented by the following ~~general~~ formula [III],



wherein R¹ is acyl~~[[;]]~~ ;

R² is hydrogen, halogen ~~[[or]]~~ , unsubstituted alkyl ~~[[,]]~~

~~wherein the~~ or alkyl ~~can be~~ substituted by halogen;

R³ is halogen or alkoxy;

R⁴ is ~~alkyl or cycloalkyl, wherein the~~ unsubstituted alkyl ~~can be~~
or alkyl substituted by cycloalkyl, aryl ~~[[,]]~~ or hydroxyl or an
ester thereof or alkoxy;

R⁵ is hydroxyl or an ester thereof, alkoxy or alkoxyalkyl; or

R⁴ and R⁵ ~~can be~~ are bonded with each other to form a pyrrolidine
ring substituted by hydroxyl or an ester thereof, alkoxy or
alkoxyalkyl;

~~[[R⁵]] is hydroxyl or an ester thereof [[,]] alkoxy or~~

~~[[-A₂ -]] R⁶ [[;]]~~

R⁶ is hydroxyl or an ester thereof, alkoxy, alkoxyalkoxy,
alkoxyalkoxyalkoxy, mercapto or alkylthio; and

A₁ and A₂, are the same or different, and are alkylene,

provided that (i) when R⁴ and R⁵ are bonded to each other to form
the pyrrolidine ring substituted by hydroxyl or ~~[[the]]~~ an ester
thereof, R² is halogen ~~[[,]]~~ ; (ii) when R⁴ and R⁵ are bonded to
each other to form the pyrrolidine ring substituted by
alkoxyalkyl, R² is hydrogen ~~[[,]]~~ ; (iii) when R⁶ is hydroxyl or

~~[[the]]~~ an ester thereof, R⁴ is isopropyl.

Claim 12. (currently amended) The compound or a salt thereof
as claimed in claim 11, wherein

R¹ is acyl,

R² is hydrogen,

R³ is alkoxy,

R⁴ is alkyl,

R⁵ is hydroxyl or an ester thereof, alkoxy or -A₂-R⁶, or

R⁴ and R⁵ ~~can be~~ are bonded with each other to form a pyrrolidine
ring substituted by alkoxy or alkoxyalkyl,

~~[[R⁵]] is hydroxyl or an ester thereof [[,]] alkoxy or~~

~~[[-A₂ -]] R⁶ [[,]]~~

R⁶ is alkoxy, alkoxyalkoxy or alkoxyalkoxyalkoxy, and

A₁ and A₂, are the same or different, and are alkylene ~~in the~~
~~general formula {III}.~~

Claim 13. (currently amended) The compound or a salt thereof
as claimed in claim 11, wherein

R¹ is acyl,

R² is halogen,

R³ is alkoxy,

R⁴ is alkyl,

R⁵ is hydroxyl or an ester thereof, alkoxy or -A₂-R⁶, or

R⁴ and R⁵ ~~can be~~ are bonded with each other to form a pyrrolidine substituted by hydroxyl or an ester thereof or alkoxy,

~~[[R⁵]] is hydroxyl or an ester thereof [[,]] alkoxy or~~

~~[[-A₂ -]] R⁶ [[,]]~~

R⁶ is alkoxy, alkoxyalkoxy or alkoxyalkoxyalkoxy, and

A₁ and A₂, are the same or different, and are alkylene ~~in the~~
~~general formula [III].~~

Claim 14. (currently amended) The compound or a salt thereof
as claimed in claim 11, wherein

R¹ is acyl,

R² is hydrogen or halogen,

R³ is alkoxy,

R⁴ is isopropyl,

R⁵ is -A₂-R⁶,

R⁶ is hydroxyl or an ester thereof, and

A₁ and A₂, are the same or different, and are alkylene ~~in the~~
~~general formula [III].~~

Claim 15. (currently amended) A compound or a salt thereof,
the compound being selected from the group consisting of

[[·]]3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]]3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-hydroxy-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]]3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-isopropyl-N-(2-methoxyethyl) amino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]]3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-ethoxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]]3-Acetyl acetyl-5-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]]3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)-1-methylpropoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]]3-Acetyl acetyl-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-ethoxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]](+)-3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-isopropyl-N-(2-methoxyethyl) amino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]](+)-3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] (+)-3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-ethoxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] (+)-3-Acetyl acetyl-2-[2-(3-(N-(2-ethoxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] 3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-isopropyl-(N-(2-methoxymethyloxyethyl))amino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] 3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-isopropyl-N-(2-(2-methoxyethoxymethoxy)ethyl)amino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline,

[[·]] 2-[2-(3-(N-(2-Acetoxyethyl) acetoxyethyl)-N-isopropylamino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]-3-acetyl-6-chlorobenzothiazoline and

[[·]] 3-Acetyl acetyl-6-chloro-2-[2-(3-(N-isopropyl-N-(2-phenylcarboxyethyl)amino)propoxy)-5-methoxyphenyl]benzothiazoline.

Claim 16. (new) A method of treating pain or pruritus comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of the kappa opioid receptor agonist according to claim 8.

Claim 17. (new) A method of treating pain or pruritus comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of the compound or salt according to claim 11.

Claim 18. (new) A method of treating pain or pruritus comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of the compound or salt according to claim 12.

Claim 19. (new) A method of treating pain or pruritus comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of the compound or salt according to claim 13.

Claim 20. (new) A method of treating pain or pruritus comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of the compound or salt according to claim 14.

Claim 21. (new) A method of treating pain or pruritus comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a

pharmaceutically effective amount of the compound or salt according to claim 15.

Claim 22. (new) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the method is for treating pain caused by a rheumatic disease.

Claim 23. (new) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the method is for treating pain caused by a rheumatic disease.

Claim 24. (new) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the method is for treating pain caused by a rheumatic disease.

Claim 25. (new) The method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the method is for treating pain caused by a rheumatic disease.

Claim 26. (new) The method as claimed in claim 20, wherein the method is for treating pain caused by a rheumatic disease.

Claim 27. (new) The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the method is for treating pain caused by a rheumatic disease.